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WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our regular correspondent.)
Washington, Aug. 12, 1901.

The U. S. Government declines to get excited over the latest peanut revolution in Central America, notwithstanding the hysteria of certain gentlemen who have business interests over there. We have a treaty with Columbia by which the neutrality of the Panama railroad is guaranteed, and if Columbia cannot enforce that treaty, this government will do so with its naval forces, as it has done before. The gun boat Machias has been ordered to proceed to Colon, the eastern terminus of the Panama railroad, and it is believed that no stronger force will be needed to protect American interests on the Isthmus, but as a precautionary measure, the cruiser Ranger now on the Pacific coast, has been ordered gotten in readiness so she can be sent to the Pacific side of the Isthmus should it be thought necessary. This government has nothing to do with the war between Columbia and Venezuela, which seems to have grown out of the revolution against the government of Columbia, and will not interfere in any way unless it becomes necessary for the protection of American interests. That is the whole story in a nutshell, which has started all of the yellow journals to yawning and predicting that we are about to become involved in an European war on account of the little rumpus on the Isthmus.

Hon. Wm. E. Chandler's protest to the Navy Department against the personal attack made upon him and his administration of the Navy Department by Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans, in his recently published book, resulted in the writing and publication of a letter of censure to Evans by Acting Secretary Hackett. Evans was doubtless glad to get out of the scrape so easily, but it is understood that all Mr. Chandler wished was to have the Navy Department placed on record as opposing the right of naval officers to publicly criticize the official acts of the Secretary of the Navy, either while he is in office or afterwards. This he has done.

The Insular Division of the War Department was not, when established, intended to be a bureau for the promotion of matrimony, but a glance over its correspondence files shows that it has been indirectly the cause of many marriages, and Col. Edwards, its capable and courteous chief, is in doubt as to whether he deserves praise or condemnation for the unpremeditated results. The epidemic of marriage was brought about by the regulations adopted by the division for the transportation of teachers for the public schools in the Philippines, which provided that the person directly dependent upon the teacher might, if practically, be furnished free transportation upon a government transport. That was enough of a hint for a number of bright young fellows who had been appointed teachers, and the division was at once overwhelmed with applications for transportation for brides, as "the person directly dependent upon the teacher." Inasmuch as the teachers alone were a severe tax upon the transportation facilities of the government, this was decidedly embarrassing, but Col. Edwards, who is a sympathetic man, was equal to the occasion, and no bride was left behind. All records for the carrying of brides were broken by the transport which carried the brides to the Philippines, and Uncle Sam doesn't regret his liberal present of free passages, whatever some of the brides may do later. By the way, it is officially announced that all appointments of teachers will hereafter be made by Fred W. Atkins, Superintendent of Public Instruction in the Philippines, whose address is Manila. The announcement was made to stop applications being sent to the War Department. There will be very few

more appointments, anyway, except to fill vacancies.

A late census bulletin shows that Michigan has 1,218,005 males, 1,172,077 females, and 540,653 foreign born residents; Minnesota, 932,409 males, 818,904 females, and 505,318 foreign born; Mississippi, 781,451 males, 709,819 females, and 7,891 foreign born. In the first two states the colored population is less than one per cent; in Mississippi it is just a little less than fifty-nine per cent.

Once more the Treasurer of the U. S. has denied one of the periodical stories, usually originating abroad and used to defraud those who can be duped into believing them, alleging that the U. S. Treasury held a large sum in trust for the heirs of a man who deposited it there. This time, the man's name was given as Dembitzky, a Poly, who was said to have deposited the money there just previous to being killed while fighting in the Union army during the civil war. It is needless to say to those who are acquainted with the principles under our government is run, that the U. S. Treasury is not and cannot act as a trustee for private funds in trust, but the ignorant and even some intelligent persons in our own country do not know this, as often as it has been stated in connection with this sort of thing, and naturally a story of this sort is readily accepted by the credulous in other countries, often to their cost.

Under a decision of the Comptroller of the Treasury, Secretary Wilson can use in his discretion, an appropriation of \$20,000 in the Agricultural bill for the current fiscal year, to get what will in effect be an export bounty on American fruits, in his efforts to build up a foreign market for our fruits. The money will be carefully spent on a plan that is yet to be perfected, and will, it is believed, demonstrate that a large and profitable export trade in American fruits can be built up with a little intelligent effort.

The Difference.

It takes all kinds of people to make a world, and that fact was illustrated in a peculiar way, not long ago in New York. To those who read of the incident it may occur that some pains ought to be taken to sort out different types of humanity and consider which is best worth encouraging.

There is a line of coast steamships plying between New York and Boston, which owns as its mascot a small woolly dog known as Pete. He has traveled to and fro on one steamer or another for several years, and has always been well treated. One day during the recent hot weather, a lot of boys were swimming near one of the steamers which was tied up in New York harbor, and it occurred to them that they wanted a little fun. So what did they do but catch Pete, who was loafing about in a sociable and friendly way, and throw him into the river. Not content with that, they began pelting him with stones when he tried to swim ashore. To many people it will seem strange that there should be any fun in that sort of thing, but there is. The more miserable a defenseless animal can be made and the longer he can be made to fight for a chance of life before being finally killed, the more amusement there is in it for some folks. The folks who take their sport in this fashion would see no fun in things which other civilized human beings regard as highly desirable. Their idea of Heaven would possibly be a place in which they would have an unlimited number of helpless creatures, brute or human, but preferably human, to torment as they chose. The chances are that if these boys could, without danger of punishment, have gotten hold of a smaller boy and treated him just as they did Pete, they would have been still more amused.

In default of anything better,

however, Pete did very well. But in the midst of the entertainment the watchman came on the scene, and he was an old man and fond of the dog. Strangely enough, he was one of the people who fail to see fun in things of this kind. He told them to stop. He was on shore and the boys were in the water, and they had the advantage and knew it. They kept on having fun, and presently a stone struck Pete on the head and he began to sink. The old watchman did not stop to take his clothes off. He jumped head first into the river and swam toward the dog. His head was hit by a floating beam and he was stunned. Then a fifteen-year old boy, who had taken no part in the previous sport, came along, and saw what was doing, and he leaped into the water and rescued the old man, and then pulled the dog with a boat hook. Both recovered and the dog insisted on going where the watchman went.

There are many persons, including the boys whose amusement was so summarily interfered with, who will say that this was a good deal of a fuss to make over a dog, and that a human life is worth more than that of a animal. Undoubtedly it is. But that is not the question. When a fireman risks his life to save that of a crippled child in a tenement fire, we do not reason in that way. We do not argue that he ought to weigh the worth of his life with that of the child, and sit down on the sidewalk and let the child burn to death. It is obvious that the moral value of this act of heroism is worth something to the community, aside from its direct consequence. The same is true in this case. It is unlikely that the boys threw this little dog in the water and stoned him will amuse themselves in just that way again, where the watchman is, and perhaps some of them were sufficiently ashamed of themselves to refrain from such performances for the rest of their lives. A great deal of such cruelty is more thoughtlessness than anything else. One boy stronger, more active or more vicious than the rest, sets the fashion and the rest join in. The difference between different "crowds," "sets" or "gangs" of boys is not so much in the character of the rank and file as in that of their leaders.

At any rate, there were concerned in this incident two opposite types of humanity—the type which delights in inflicting pain and that which is willing to suffer to prevent pain being inflicted. It is likely that many of those who came to know about it did a little thinking about the desirability of allowing the former type to perpetuate itself. It was a sort of object lesson which could hardly fail to have some effect.

The spirit which sets a "gang" of boys, egged on by two or three leading spirits, to torture and kill a helpless animal is very much the same as that which insists on lynch law as a substitute for justice. During the season, several years ago, when there was a general hydrophobia scare in this country, a great many harmless dogs were probably chased down and killed at one time or another because the cry was started by some sensation lover that they were mad.

Among people who are in the habit of disregarding the rights and sufferings of others, it is quite as easy for some thorties person to gather a mob to hunt men; and whatever may be said of the right of an indignant community to take the law into its own hands, when crime is clearly proved, there is no possible excuse for such an action when the prisoner is not absolutely known to be guilty. The statistics of lynch law show that a considerable percentage of those who have been lynched at one time or another had not been proven guilty, or anything like it; they were merely suspected. The lawlessness which caused their death is exactly the same in greater degree as that of these young New York war-rats; and it ought to be suppressed wherever found.

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NEXT DOOR TO P. O.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The Record Books furnish by the county court for the purpose of re-recording have been delivered and I am now ready to receive all deeds presented for re-recording. I again call attention to the record books which were saved. All of the Lettered Books to wit: A. Supplied, B. Supplied, A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. Also record books Number 41, 44, 51, 52, 53 and 54 are saved. Deeds recorded in any of the above named book do not require re-recording.

All record books not named above are destroyed. And all deeds which were originally recorded in the books destroyed, that is to say books not listed above, and should be re-recorded.

My office has been furnished with a fire-proof safe for the safe keeping of all deeds. As several thousand deeds will probably be filed for re-recording, all persons sending deeds to me by mail or otherwise, should attach to each deed a slip of paper showing the postoffice address and the name of the person to whom the deed is to be returned. This will avoid great confusion if carefully carried out. The cost of re-recording is paid by Montgomery county, but persons filing deeds for re-recording should in all cases attach sufficient postage to pay for the return of the deeds by mail. It will be the policy of my office to return by mail all deeds as fast as possible, and while the postage on each deed is a small item, the aggregate postage will amount to a large sum.

Very respectfully,
THOMAS MORIARTY,
Recorder of Deeds.

Mrs. James Gentry, mother-in-law of Elder W. L. Carr, died yesterday morning, Thursday, Aug. 15th, at her daughter's home, Mrs. Jas. O. Taylor, near Argonville, Lincoln county, Mo., aged 74 years. She was the mother of 14 children, three of which preceded her to the grave. Four sons and seven daughters survive her. Mrs. Gentry was a member of the Christian church for more than 50 years, and died in the triumph of Christian faith. She leaves the above children and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her loss. She was the wife of Elder John Gentry who preceded her to the grave a few years ago.

Geo. Johnson, of Galtana was delivering hogs here last Tuesday. Mr. Johnson said he only brought up three hogs but that they brought him \$15 a head.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are compelled to require all of our correspondents to sign their names to their items not for publication, but so that we may know who wrote them.

We received this week items from two different writers signed only by fictitious names, and neither of the names used were familiar to us. The only proof we had of one of them being from our regular correspondent was by the hand writing and stationery used. Please sign your name in some corner or on the back and it will save us trouble. It is not good policy in a paper to publish matter written by unknown parties or coming from an unknown source.

There will be a Gospel Temperance Meeting held in New Providence church 3rd Sunday Aug. 18, 1901, beginning promptly at 7 p. m.

PROGRAM.

Hymn—I Shall Know Him.
Scripture Reading—Miss Tressie Stewart.
Prayer—Rev. E. W. Reynolds.
Hymn—Nearer My God to Thee.
Recitation—Good Night Papa.
Miss Mary Pearl.
Solo—Miss Jessie Perkins.
Select Readings—Miss Leona Bishop.
Recitation—The Silver Cup.
Miss Wardie Stewart.
Solo—Miss Tressie Stewart.
Duet—Miss Ethel and Maud Harmon.
Recitation—The Foundation Stone of the W. C. T. U.
Wren Summers.
Duet—Misses Kattie and Carrie Schowengerdt.
Recitation—Miss Alice Bishop.
Address—Dr. Perkins.
Music—
Recitation—Miss Stewart.
Duet—Miss Lola Wilson.
Select Reading—Miss Corine Stewart.
Hymn—Blest be the Tie.
Benediction—
Every one invited.

It is remarked by an exchange that the lady who gently tapped her husband on the shoulder with her fan the other night and said, "Love it is growing late; I think we had better go home," is the same who after getting home shook the rolling pin under his nose and said: "You infamous old scoundrel look around you, if you ever look at that mean, hateful calico faced, mackerel eyed old thing your eyes were riveted on to-night. I'll burst your cocanut wide open for you."

Will Hass spent last Sunday in St. Louis.

SCHEME TO DEFAUD.

Shrewd Sewing Machine Swindlers Find Money-Making Easy.

A pair of smooth sewing machine agents or repairers are working the State with a game that seldom fails to fleece unwary housekeepers' says a Dixon, Mo., dispatch. The scheme is the acme of plausibility and the essence of proverbial Yankee shrewdness. The lads are working separately, apparently having no connection with each other, and are in need of a little publicity.

The first calls at a house and kindly offers to examine and clean the family machine without any charge. In going over the machine he deftly removes one of the parts. Then he produces a broken part to correspond with the piece removed, and tells the lady of the house that he will replace it with a new one for a neat sum. The broken part he carries with him as a part of his stock in trade. Securing the job by his polite manners' all he has to do is to replace the original part and collect the money.

Then he introduces a new brand of sewing machine oil and tries to sell the housekeeper a bottle. Failing to do this' he generally presents her with a large sample bottle and either oils the machine himself or instructs her how to do so. The oil he carries is heavily doped with gum arabic or some similar mucilaginous substance. It never fails to stick up the bearing of the machine in nice shape within two or three days.

By this time the second agent has appeared and finds the machine in very bad order. After ralling at the other fellow as a burglar he tells the housekeeper that her machine has been well nigh ruined, but offers to fix it for a few dollars. All he does is to cut the mucilage off the bearing with a little alcohol or benzine, and the machine is in running order again. Then he hunts up another victim in the foot steps of his predecessor.

W. C. T. U. Moonlight Social.

There will be a Moonlight Social under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. at Mrs. Luther Holder's Thursday evening, August 22. A good time is anticipated. There will be a word forming a contest and a prize awarded. Ice cream and cake will be in evidence 10c per dish. Every body come and enjoy a pleasant evening.

J. M. Cator came up from St. Louis Tuesday to reunite with us a few days.

Mrs. Dixie Pullam, of St. Louis is the guest of Mrs. E. B. Pegram